

CLAIMS

1. An automation system for programming appliances having two or more switch units capable of carrying a switch array to control specified appliances, each switch array having a switch cover with actuation icons
5 corresponding to the appliances to be controlled and switch enabling means that only activate the switches corresponding to the actuation icons on said switch cover in which the appliances to be controlled from a switch unit may be varied by changing the switch cover.
- 10 2. A panel switch which includes
 - a) a fixed unit capable of carrying a multiple n of active switches
 - b) a replaceable cover for the fixed unit able to carry up to n active contact closure positions
 - c) where in the covers only carry as many active positions as is desired
15 so that the number of active switches on a fixed unit and the number of actuation positions can be changed by changing the cover.
3. A cover for the panel switch as defined in claim 2 which carries icons or contact positions on the front and switch actuation means on the back
20 corresponding to said icons.
4. A cover as claimed in claim 3 wherein the switches are tactile switches
5. A switch panel which includes
 - a. an electronic control circuit and an associated switch array for
25 capacitative or charge transfer switches to activate appliances in communication with said control circuit
 - b. a control array bearing electrodes to complete a predetermined number of said switches on said switch array
 - c. said control array being associated with a cover member carrying
30 on its face surface icon indicia corresponding to the appliances to be actuated from the panel switch.

6. A switch cover for use in the panel switch of claim 4 which includes icons corresponding to the appliances to be actuated by said switches and switch actuation electrodes corresponding to said icons.